

March 12, 2023 10:00 AM

**Gathering**

**Prelude** Brad Dumont, piano

**Land Acknowledgement & Welcome** June McKnight, Worship Host

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Introit** #390 *Gaudeamus Hodie*

**Opening Words** Let Us Worship #437 Rev. Megan Lynes

**Chalice Lighting**

\* **Hymn #347** *Gather The Spirit*

\* **Covenant** Love is the spirit of this church,  
and service its law.  
This is our great covenant:  
To dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love,  
and to help one another.

\* **Affirmation** From all that dwell below the skies  
let words of love and peace arise.  
Let joyful songs of praise be sung  
through every land, by every tongue.

**Centering**

**Message for All Ages** “*Benny and Rebecca*” Rev. Megan Lynes and  
Marissa Evans, ADRE

**Going Forth with the Light**

**Joys and Sorrows** Ingrid Holcomb, Lay Minister

**Prayer or Meditation** Rev. Megan Lynes

\* **Hymn #83** *Winds be Still*

**Exploring**

**Reading** by Carter Heyward Rev. Megan Lynes

**Sharing Our Gifts**

This month we share our weekly offering with **Southeast India Foundation** (see insert). You may donate with a check made out to “First Parish Church,” online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text to (978) 310-3309.

\* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

**Anthem** “*A Time for All Things*” FPC Adult Choir  
Douglas Wagner  
Adapted from Ecclesiastes

To ev'rything there is a season, there is a time for all good things;  
A time to plant and a time to reap, a time to lose, a time to keep;  
A time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn, a time to dance.  
To ev'rything there is a season, there is a time for all good things.

A time to follow, a time to lead, a time to speak and a time to heed;  
A time to sleep, a time to wake, a time to give and a time to take.  
For all the blessings of our God, are given us that we might have,  
A time to live and a time to share, a time to love and a time to care.  
A time for all good things.

**Sermon** “Love Languages, Redux” Rev. Megan Lynes

**Returning**

\* **Hymn #311** *Let it Be a Dance*

\* **Benediction** by Theodore Parker Rev. Megan Lynes

\* **Closing Song**  
Peace be with you ‘til we meet again!  
As life lays its task before you,  
Keep love’s banner floating o’er you.  
Peace be with you ‘til we meet again.

**Postlude** Brad Dumont, Piano



Thank you to:  
Zoom Helper  
Jeff Brown and Peter Frisk, Ushers  
Mark Koenig and Troy Liston, Coffee Hour Hosts  
and to our staff and leadership  
While there are no flowers today, Ralph Edwards dedicates this space  
to the memory of Mary Harvey.



\* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

## Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that this service is being held by a community that gathers on the stolen traditional lands of the Massachusett, Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Wampanoag People. We pay respect to those Indigenous Peoples who lost their lives in the colonization of this land and recognize that these Indigenous tribes are still today facing violations of sovereignty, territory, and water. We also give thanks for the Earth we walk upon, the waters, the lifegiving plants, and all the Earth's creatures, as well as the winds, sun, moon, and stars. We recognize this is just a first step in moving toward right relationship with Native peoples and healing of the Earth.

## Connect with First Parish Church

Sign our visitor's log at [tinyurl.com/visitfpc](https://tinyurl.com/visitfpc)  
Services Sunday at 10 am, in person and online



Subscribe to

*The Chronicle*, our monthly emailed newsletter,  
*This Week at FPC*, our weekly Friday email,  
and our email groups FPC Announce and FPC Forum, all at <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>



First Parish Church of Stow and Acton (MA) is **seeking an interim service pianist/organist** beginning Sunday, March 12 for a period of at least 8 Sundays and potentially longer. For position requirements, hours, and compensation, please email our music director Brad Dumont at [music@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:music@fpc-stow-acton.org), or see the ad on our Facebook page, First Parish Church of Stow & Acton, Unitarian Universalist.

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

*Unitarian Universalist*



Sunday, March 12, 2023

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum**  
Minister

**Marissa Evans**  
Acting Director, Religious Education

**Meg Rivers-Wright**  
Administration and Membership

**Brad Dumont**  
Music Director

**Sanghee Kim**.....Organist/Pianist  
**Mike Silkonis**.....Sexton  
**Ben Child**.....Tech Assistant  
**Janet Beatrice**.....External Publicity  
**Sharon Brownfield**.....President  
**Jenni Edgerton**.....Vice President  
**Bill Froberg**.....Treasurer  
**Johanna Pyle**.....Clerk

*First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation.  
We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender  
people into our community.*

To help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible, the ushers can provide large print orders of service and hymnals or, for people who need to step out during the service for any reason, an assisted listening device (portable radio) which works throughout the building.

On the web at [fpc-stow-acton.org](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

## ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE

**This page contains information specifically for folks joining us online!**

1. FPC now has a closed captioning option in online services. If the Closed Captioning option is not turned on, you can use the button at the bottom of your screen to request that the host turn it on.
2. Today's Zoom Host:
3. Hymn Lyrics:



### Hymn #347

#### *Gather the Spirit*

1. Gather the spirit, harvest the power.  
Our sep'rate fires will kindle one flame.  
Witness the mystery of this hour.  
Our trials in this light appear all the same.  
  
(Chorus) Gather in peace, gather in thanks.  
Gather in sympathy now and then.  
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.  
Gather to celebrate once again.
2. Gather the spirit of heart and mind.  
Seeds for the sowing are laid in store.  
Nurtured in love, and conscience refined,  
with body and spirit united once more. (Chorus)
3. Gather the spirit growing in all,  
drawn by the moon and fed by the sun.  
Winter to spring, and summer to fall,  
the chorus of life resounding as one. (Chorus)

### Hymn #83

#### *Winds be Still*

1. Winds be still.  
Storm clouds pass and silence come.  
Peace grace this time with harmony.  
Fly, bird of hope, and shine, light of love,  
and in calm let all find tranquility.

2. Bird fly high.  
Lift our gaze toward distant view.  
Help us to sense life's mystery.  
Fly high and far, and lead us each to see  
how we move through the winds of eternity.
3. Light shine in.  
Luminate our inward view.  
Help us to see with clarity.  
Shine bright and true so we may join our songs  
in new sounds that become full symphony.

### Hymn #311

#### *Let it Be a Dance*

- Chorus: Let it be a dance we do. May I have this dance with you?  
Through the good times and the bad times, too, let it be a dance.
1. Let a dancing song be heard. Play the music, say the words,  
and fill the sky with sailing birds. Let it be a dance.  
Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance.  
Learn to follow, learn to lead, feel the rhythm, fill the need  
to reap the harvest, plant the seed. Let it be a dance. (Chorus)
  2. Everybody turn and spin, let your body learn to bend,  
and, like a willow with the wind, let it be a dance.  
Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance.  
A child is born, the old must die; a time for joy, a time to cry.  
Take it as it passes by. Let it be a dance. (Chorus)
  3. Morning star comes out at night, without the dark there is no light.  
If nothing's wrong, then nothing's right. Let it be a dance.  
Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance.  
Let the sun shine, let it rain; share the laughter, bear the pain,  
and round and round we go again. Let it be a dance.

### Sharing Our Gifts

If you are mailing a pledge or a donation, here is the information:

#### Pledges:

Attn: Pledge Secretary  
PO Box 215  
Stow, MA 01775

#### Donations:

Attn: Treasurer  
353 Great Rd  
Stow, MA 01775

Announcements begin on next page

**Plate Sharing  
This Month:**

**Southeast India  
Foundation**

For 18 years FPC has fostered and supported the Southeast India Project, which works with poor villages in the tsunami-affected area of Tamil Nadu, India, with WIDE Orphanage for dalit children (children of the caste formerly known as Untouchables), provides micro-lending for financing new opportunities for women, and establishes self-help organizations for women. Bob Tabor (17th journey), Vicky Tabor (5th year), and Russ Hart (4th year) were there this January, revisiting WIDE Children's Home and the dalit villages.

With support from FPC and other individuals and organizations, we are continuing to sponsor children at WIDE Children's Home and distribute food to the villages. This year five more children are being sponsored by FPC families, providing these children with a healthy, safe, caring environment, as well as an education.



In rural villages, Plate Sharing contributions have helped us build balwadis (pre-schools) and toilets, drill a bore well, reclaim arable land for organic farming, support women's self-help groups to manage herds of dairy cows, and build a tailoring school for women in a tribal village. We thank you for your generous and continued support!

**This  
Week  
in  
Religious  
Education**

**Children (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th Graders)** will explore the important skill of asking for help - part of our theme of vulnerability this month,.

**Junior Youth (6th-8th graders)** will share in experiential pagan practice with Marissa Evans, our ADRE, who participated in pagan communities as a young adult.

**Coming of Age** are welcome to enjoy the service or help out in a younger class.

**Club UU** – Friday, 3/17 - including a visit to the Art Show

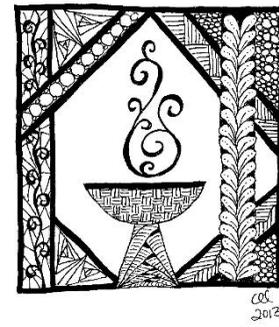
**FPC Announcements: Sunday, March 12, 2023** Live links in *This Week at FPC*

**Today at FPC**

10 am Service, Sanctuary/Online  
11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall  
12 pm Spiritual Conversations, online

**Spiritual Conversations: TODAY 3/12, Online**

You don't need to know anything about poetry to join Ilene Rudman for Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry. (Yes, this Sunday, Ilene's going solo!) Come and engage with others through the sharing of a poem – read it, listen to it, let it take you to possible new insights, and respond to it. Such conversations have been going on at FPC twice a month for over a decade! We sincerely hope you will join us in this deeply satisfying time of connection. Please let Elizabeth Cobblah [eucobblah@gmail.com](mailto:eucobblah@gmail.com) know if you plan to attend or have questions.



**This coming weekend!  
FPC's Arts Coalition Presents  
The First Annual Arts Exhibit**

**Fri 3/17 – Sun 3/19**

Showing works of FPC community members  
of all levels, ages, & styles

<p><b>FRI 17</b></p> <p><b>6:30-8:30 pm Opening Reception</b> A family-friendly event Twenty of our own FPC artists/craftspeople Snacks and soft beverages An art trivia game around 7:30 P.M. (Participants will play in teams and the questions won't be obscure! ☺) Additional ways to participate</p>	<p><b>SAT 18</b></p> <p><b>11:00 am-4:00 pm</b> Open Gallery Hours with artists</p> <hr/> <p><b>SUN 19</b></p> <p>Open Gallery during Coffee Hour <b>following the 10 am service.</b> Gallery Closing</p>
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**This Week at FPC: March 13 - 18**

- Mon 3/13** ▶ SGM: 2nd Monday Group, 7-9 pm, Community Room  
▶ **Jazz Band Rehearsal, 7-9 pm, Sanctuary**
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- Tue 3/14** ▶ Coffee and Chat\* 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
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- Wed 3/15** ▶ Submission Deadline for April's issue of *The Chronicle*  
▶ SGM: 3rd Wednesday Group, 7:30-9:30 pm, Online  
▶ **Ukulele Meetup, 7-9 pm, Community Room**  
▶ Meditation\* 7:30-8:30 pm, Hall/Online  
Contact meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org for more info.
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- Thu 3/16** ▶ Peace Vigil\* 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds  
Contact Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net for more info.  
▶ Choir Rehearsal, 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary  
▶ SGM: 3rd Thursday Group, 7:30-9:30 pm
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- Fri 3/17** ▶ Bridge Group\* 1-3:30 pm, Community Room  
Contact Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com for more info.  
▶ Art Show Opening Reception 6:30-8:30 pm, Hall
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- Sat 3/18** ▶ **Garden Conversations, 9-10 am, Online**  
▶ Art Show Open for Visitors 11 am – 4 pm

\*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events

**Next Sunday's Service:** March 19, 2023

10:00 AM in the Sanctuary and online/phone  
"Heart and Art" - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum  
An Intergenerational Service

Join us for an intergenerational, artistic, and interactive service celebrating art and artists!  
We invite you to bring a piece of art you've created for an "art parade," and if you haven't seen our art gallery this weekend, it'll be open during coffee hour after the service in Fellowship Hall!



Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>  
Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266 Passcode: 01775  
Join Worship by Phone: (929) 205-6099 (toll call)



**Additional Announcements** Live links in *This Week at FPC* Friday email

**Parish Jazz Band Rehearsal** Mon 3/13, 7-9 pm, Sanctuary  
Please contact Michael Paladini [mwpaladini@gmail.com](mailto:mwpaladini@gmail.com) to join in the fun!

**Uketarians** Wed 3/15, 7-9 pm, Community Room  
Ukulele group meeting once per month with local musicians to play tunes and have fun.

**Garden Conversations** Sat, March 18, 9 am, Online  
Please join us to share questions, tips and sometimes resources for the gardening season. Gardeners with all levels of experience are invited to join the conversation. Contact Rick Lent [rickmlent@gmail.com](mailto:rickmlent@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

**Would you like to lead or contribute to a Sunday Service this summer?** FPC's summer services will run on each of the twelve Sundays between June 18 and September 3. The Worship Committee would like to

June	July	August
5 M T W T F S	5 M T W T F S	5 M T W T F S
18 19 20 21 22 23	18 19 20 21 22 23	18 19 20 21 22 23
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
11 12 13 14 15 16 17	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
25 26 27 28 29 30 1	25 26 27 28 29 30 1	27 28 29 30 31 1 2
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	29 30 1 2 3 4 5	3 4 5 6 7 8 9

hear from any member of the congregation interested in leading a service or offering an idea for a service they'd like to work on with a member of our committee. Please contact Neil Saunders, Chair ([neilsaund@verizon.net](mailto:neilsaund@verizon.net)) with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.

**FPC's Annual Spring Auction**

Feeling the midwinter blues? One of the best ways to revitalize can be to give – to help someone else. And may we suggest...giving your time or talents to FPC's biggest fundraiser of the year? This time our auction will bring the Monopoly game to life, and we invite you to donate, volunteer, and attend!

<b>DONATE</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	<b>ATTEND</b>
baked goods services gift cards meals for home-delivery host a dinner host a party	set-up servers bid spotters bid recorders auctioneer clean-up	<b>Silent Auction -</b> March 26 - April 5 on Auctria <b>Live Auction –</b> April 1 at FPC, 6:30-9:30 pm

To get started, go to our FPC webpage where you'll find a donation form, gift card sign-up Genius, and many more details. Thank you! ♥  
[www.fpc-stow-acton.org/auction](http://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/auction)

